

EASTER HATS AND PARASOLS.

FLOWERS IN PROFUSION THE FEATURE OF THE HEADGEAR.

Hats Broad and Flat and Light—Fresh Effects in Straw and Tulle—A Millinery Air Favored—White Hats and Pearls—Parasols of Lace and Silk.

Hats for Easter have blossomed out already, and "blossomed" has a literal significance here, for there are no end of all-flower hats, hats of leaves and flowers and hats of other materials profusely decorated with flowers.

Roses by their traditional right of beauty have the lead, but they have a close following in the long list of other blossoms which have a place in the line. Fruit blossoms of all kinds are popular, and then there are carnations, wall flowers, primroses, gardenias and every other flower possible for hat trimming, besides the most beautiful foliage ever produced.

The chiffon flowers are charming, too, both in coloring and lightness. In fact, the artistic beauty of the artificial flowers surpasses anything we can possibly imagine. Flat and broad are the prevailing features in shape, and whatever kind of hat you have it must be broad, with some arrangement of ends at the back, or else it will be quite out of the fashion.

Every bit of trimming is arranged to contribute to this effect. At least this is the present outlook as to hats. What the season may develop later on is a matter of speculation. Summer always seems to bring the desire to revive some old-time style, so we may find ourselves up against the proposition of poke bonnets again.

The principal idea in millinery, in addition to the carnival of flowers, is lightness and airy effects. This has been the tendency all winter, and no doubt it will be exaggerated in the midsummer hats. However, it is one of the redeeming and most attractive features, since a light hat is most comfortable to wear and more suitable for the style of hair dressing than a heavy one.

The new straws are very lacy and light. One of the newest kinds resembles the

black and colored parasols, but the real novelty is the flowered silk parasol as varied in design and coloring as a veritable flower garden. Inset lace motifs combined with embroidery form another elegant mode of decoration, but with all the fussiness and elegance in this department, there are as of old the same pretty plain silk parasols in all colors, built entirely to serve the purpose for which they were intended.

WEDDING PRESENT PROTEST

London Thinks the Time Has Arrived For Making Reforms.

LONDON, Jan. 31.—Every now and then one hears again the complaint of the "wedding present tax." The following paragraph from a morning paper states the case in the usual way:

"The extravagance, ostentation and gilt-

DAINTY LENTEN LUNCHEONS.

PICTURESQUE FARE POSSIBLE WITHOUT MEAT.

Fish Not So Generally Appreciated as a Food as It Might Be—Suggestions of Novelties for Entertainments at This Season—Resources Found in Eggs.

Lent's coming brings a greatly needed change to tables that since early fall have been laden with meat dishes. Not until the time of abstinence from meat approaches will the average person turn from beef and mutton and poultry to fish as a diet. Lent therefore serves a double purpose in giving rest from social duties and in also offering

conditions. But this course should always be beyond reproach.

Cucumbers sliced are served with this dish. Heavy vegetables never have a place in a Lenten luncheon; they belong properly to the dinner. A salad, fresh and green or a fruit salad is always a necessity, the green salads being preferable. Sweetmeats must be abundant and daintily colored. Cakes and ices are the best and coffee is served with them.

Of course there must be innumerable small dishes of small sandwiches made from nuts, shrimp or anchovy paste or caviar. Olives stuffed with anchovies are appreciated by most people and there are many dainty sweet pickled fruits that make admirable bits of color and add to the delicate novelty of the repast.

Hostesses in planning these little feasts must study carefully to avoid any repetition of flavors. This is a trifle more difficult in a meal from which meat dishes are barred, but it is quite possible although

IT'S HARD TO BE A LADY'S MAID

WORK FOR WHICH AMERICAN GIRLS ARE NOT SUITED.

The Mistress Is the Tyrant, in Spite of a Wall Against the Exactions of French Maids—Varied Tasks Required—Lady's Maids of Different Nations.

A recently published article has much to say of the tyranny of the French maid and urges American women to free themselves from Gallic bondage by founding a school for the training of American lady's maids.

When the theory was brought to the notice of the manager of one of the most



terring spread of endless gifts which have of late been showered on newly-married people in society has created a feeling akin to dismay in the hearts of many people.

The habit of giving wedding presents has apparently grown beyond all bounds. Every one is expected to give, and while there are many who would be happy to do so in moderation, they feel that unless they go far beyond their means their little token will be merely brushed away as unworthy to be placed side by side with the gorgeous things showered in every direction.

The most recent example of this "glittering spread of endless gifts," and the one which probably suggested his theme to the

to tired palates and digestions a change in the routine of the table.

EGGS, one of the most important of Lenten foods, still soar skyward in their price and their scarcity will prove a hardship for those who make a specialty of egg dishes for the Lenten breakfast in preference to fish. The latter makes its first appearance at the luncheon table, to be supplemented later in the day by the once-a-day allowance of meat at the dinner table as prescribed by the most recent church rules.

Fasting, which used to be one of the severe requirements of the penitential season, has yielded to modern customs and only the extremely ascetic now adhere rigidly to the old rules. But abstinence from meat is generally observed with the exception of one meal, dinner in most families.

Americans are such a nation of meat eaters that even this relaxed rule is generally regarded as severe. Fish as a food is not generally appreciated or understood.

The French and the Italian chefs, on the contrary, understand the importance of the fish as a delicate food. They have learned how to convert fish into all kinds of wonderful bisques and salads, and in other forms they serve it with sauces that convert it into new marvels.

Luncheon remains the chosen form of quiet entertainment for Lent. As meat dishes are banished there is a need of dainty and appetizing viands that come within the rules. An exterior ordered to serve such a luncheon at once produces novelties in this line, but the usual home cook is in a quandary as to what to serve.

This quandary is caused by the fact that in the other weeks of the year, fish is but little served and its importance is not appreciated. For that very reason the Lenten luncheon may be made far more delicious in an epicurean sense than if the inevitable chops and green peas, sweetbreads and

the ordinary cook if left without guidance is apt to serve lobster in a sauce as well as a soup, or to repeat tomatoes in a bisque and a salad. This is one unforgivable crime in the luncheon of Lent.

Then it is a capital idea to study the color effects as well. The eye may be pleased quite as well as the palate and there are luncheons in which the pink of shrimp the red of the lobster, the creamy yellow of an egg sauce or an omelette, the crisp green of a salad are made to mingle with artistic effect, with a smart white cloth and sparkling glass and silver as a background.

DOWRIES FOR THE RED-HAIRED.

A Philanthropic Frenchman's Request That May Make Trouble.

A Frenchman has left a bequest of \$20,000 which is to supply yearly a dowry for two poor but respectable red-haired girls.

Whether he liked red hair or considered it an affliction beyond the ordinary, he neglected to state so his motive is obscure, but the \$20,000 is a definite fact.

Now the method of selection is puzzling the men who have to carry out the wishes of the deceased. Applicants for the dowry will doubtless turn up in swarms, and if there is anything in the popular tradition that denotes red hair and fiery temper, the rejected maidens may make things hot for the trustees.

It is to be hoped that these trustees will pick out hair of the ordinary, uncomplaining type. The girl with Titian tresses, the girl with auburn or copper red or chestnut hair needs no consolation.

Her wealthier sisters spend much fine gold trying to acquire just the tint that is hers without money and without price. But there is a red hair, a sandy, unspectacular, but red hair. It usually goes with pale blue eyes and white eyelashes and vague freckles.

The girl who has to carry that head burden needs the consolations of religion and of a dowry. If she chooses to spend part of the dowry on hair dye, the man who marries her should not be allowed to protest.

MADAM AT THE BANK.

Family History Which She Confided to the Treacherous Teller.

From the Chicago Tribune.

The business man who was in a hurry was standing in line at the savings bank waiting his turn to deposit. There was another person ahead of him, and he was congratulating himself upon this good luck. The person ahead was a woman, and when the business man arrived she was just opening negotiations with the teller. "Now, I want to open a bank account," she began. "For some little savings and perhaps of mine. It's for a Christmas present, you know," confidentially. "And I'm only going to put in each week of course, that is, if I can. Here the teller endeavored to get down to business details, but in vain.

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successful employment agencies in New York she looked startled and gave vent to the soulful "God forbid." Then she laughed.

"I've had many years' experience with ladies' maids and their mistresses," she said, "and that tyranny theory doesn't hold water. As a rule, the tyranny is on the other side.

"Occasionally a maid will prove so valuable that a mistress will put up with some vagaries rather than part with her, but the American woman is not often dependent upon her maid.

"For instance, in this country it is the exceptional maid who does madame's hair. She attends to the shampooing and brushing, but the average American mistress prefers dressing her own hair. For occasions, she calls in an expert coiffeur.

"Do you understand a lady's maid's duties?" asked the lady.

"I speak now of the average lady's maid. There are a few rare jewels who can do expert hair dressing, facial massage, &c."

"The ordinary lady's maid must be a clever seamstress. She must be able to keep madame's wardrobe in perfect order, freshen every soiled bit of chiffon, alter gowns that need altering, make new cravats and vests and other gown details.

"She is expected to make shirt waists, make petticoats, lounge robes. Many women have all their simple house gowns, unlined summer frocks and tea gowns made by their maids.

"You may smile. I know what I am talking about. There are exceptions, but I am giving you the rule in practice here in New York. Moreover, I know many cases where the lady's maid makes even street gowns, and where she makes clothes for the children of the family.

"The maid must understand the care of the hair, be able to shampoo it skillfully, brush it, massage the scalp. She must, to-day, be able to give massage, not perhaps thorough and scientific massage, but a massage that will rest the mistress when she comes in late at night tired and fatigued.

"Few maids can give good facial massage, though many women have, especially within the last few years, had their maids trained to some degree of proficiency in facial massage, and almost any maid is supposed to have a few rational ideas about rubbing skin food into annoying wrinkles and smoothing out crow's feet.

"Of course, a maid keeps her employer's personal belongings, bureau drawers, closets, &c., in perfect order. She is on duty at all hours, is called upon for an indefinite number of little personal attentions, from the time when she awakes her mistress in the morning, prepares her bath, lays out her clothes, &c., to the time often well along in the next morning when she finishes the massage, tucks the bed clothes in and turns out the light.

"In addition to all this she very often valets the master of the house, that is, keeps his clothes in perfect order, sees that his linen is laundered, puts the studs in his dress shirts.

"She may be one of the most important factors in the personal attentions, from the time when she awakes her mistress in the morning, prepares her bath, lays out her clothes, &c., to the time often well along in the next morning when she finishes the massage, tucks the bed clothes in and turns out the light.

"The person who talks about the eminent desirability of the lady's maid's place hasn't investigated the subject very thoroughly. The work, while not heavy, is trying, exacting, unending, and the pay, save in exceptional cases, is not proportionately high. I know women who pay their maids very high wages, but there are scores of good ladies' maids working for from twenty to thirty dollars a month.

"As for the expediency of training American girls for the work, I would veto that emphatically. American girls as a class make the poorest servants in any household position.

"It is because of the national spirit of democracy and independence, I suppose. The spirit is a fine thing, but it makes the ordinary American working girl unfit for domestic service.

"We have more trouble with American servants than with all others put together. They are indolgent, but as a rule they are badly trained, careless, impertinent, bad tempered and never know their places.

"If they do not intend to do good work they should not go into domestic service at all. If they do go into it they should accept its drawbacks philosophically and dignify the work by the way they do it.

"Every time he looked up he gazed straight into the conductor's eyes and then only were those restless orbs steady. I

was baffled as I watched. I became convinced against my previous impression that the boy really could not find his money.

"On he went, patiently, deliberately, turning his pockets inside out. Once the conductor started to growl at him, but the lad kept steadily on and the grumblings ceased. Never a word did the boy utter.

"When he had reached his last pocket for the second time he simply sat back in his seat and waved his two hands outward, with his empty palms up, and looked at the conductor distressfully.

"Theurchin's face was almost sad as if he dreaded an impending calamity—that of being put off and made to walk to his destination, and in spite of myself I felt my sympathy with him rising. As the conductor hesitated I found my right hand flinching the change in my pocket, and I suppose if the man of fares had ordered the boy off I would have stepped into the breach with my nickel. But the conductor was convinced the boy was honest and walked off without a word down the back of the car.

"The minutes the conductor turned his back, my original suspicions returned, and I couldn't for the life of me tell you why, unless it was a subtle something which had told me—one of those first impressions which are so often correct—that the boy's shifty eyes hid some moral unhealthiness. So I kept my eye fixed on the boy.

"For a minute and more he gazed straight ahead of him, wrinkling his brow as if trying to think where he could have lost his money. I became convinced that he knew I was looking at him, although he did not look my way for a full minute. He felt my eyes on him, and realizing that he did I never took them away.

"At last he turned them, my way, and shifted them instantly. He did so twice or three, and then, seeing I would not remove my gaze, after a little more chafing the boy in him asserted itself, his joy at having fooled the conductor became dominant, and turning stealthily toward his companion his eyes lit up with an indescribable twinkle of devilry, and I saw his lips frame the words:

"I didn't lose it!"

"Did I tell the conductor? No, I am sorry to say I did not. He was so

foundered, what I had feared all along was the truth and was so deep in my musings upon it, that the boys got out before I realized it.

"Well, I went with my wife that evening to a big progressive whist party. It was a benefit for a hospital. There were a number of prizes offered, and I was valuable, too, at least the women seemed to think so.

"Some of them were clearly out to win something. You could tell about it by the way they were looking. They usually had bright red spots in the middle of each cheek, and when they laughed they did it with an odd nervousness. They laughed too much, but they kept their eyes on the cards.

"I noticed one young woman in particular. She had generations of decorative and high-minded men and women behind her. That girl wanted a prize badly, and luck seemed to be against her.

"Finally one of the overworked mistresses of ceremonies, in going about, punching the cards of the successful players, was called off suddenly and carelessly laid her punch down on a table. The girl arose, controlled over to the table, laid her hand upon it, and moved her fingers along until they closed upon the punch. She was leaning over talking to some friends all the time.

"Presently she stroked off to a corner and I followed, bound to see the thing out. There I saw her hold her card, count the number of punches on it, do a little mental calculating and then calmly punch enough holes in her card to insure a prize.

"With a gasp she turned back to the table and laid the punch down, just in time, for the woman who had left it came along an instant later inquiring if any one had seen her punch.

"There it is over there, dear," said my lady. "You oughtn't to be so careless."

HAIR DRESSING AS AN ART.

An Institute of Coiffeurs About to Be Established in France.

The French have always taken hair dressing seriously. Now they are installing it side by side with the other fine arts.

There is to be an Institute of Coiffeurs. Whether the Immortals are to be limited to forty, has not been announced, but it is a foregone conclusion that there will be mighty heart burnings among hair dressing artists, over the membership of the institute and its decorations.

Some hair-dressing Zola will clamor at the gates, brandishing a curling iron in one hand and a comb in the other, and denouncing immortality on the basis of famous pompadour, his subtly realistic oration.

As to French women having their hair dressed by any save a laureate—perish the thought!

THIS IS A DREAM STORY.

It Is a Very Good One for Those Who Can Believe It.

From the Boston Herald.

A former Boston newspaper man told a story not long ago of an experience of a young woman of his acquaintance, which, while it has not yet been published, at least gives evidence of imaginative powers and may be considered later. The young woman spent her summer at an old Marshfield, and one of the windows of which had an outlook on the ocean. She had a fair, of course, and it was the collection of various kinds of seaweed.

According to the story, she had a dream one night of a storm-tossed shipwreck and stood by her side and implored him to aid in going on a search for treasure lost at a certain point in the Indian Ocean. The dream passed and the morning came. The young woman was about to leave her room when she noticed a small pool of water which might have been caused by a dripping vent of fiction, but it was carefully preserved in a specimen book.

Not long after she was a passenger on one of the ocean liners. The professor shared to a certain extent her interest in seaweeds, and not a day passed without her pointing out to her specimen book in his company. Coming to the specimen so strangely acquired the professor uttered an exclamation.

"How did you come by that?" he asked, with a manifest show of interest. She told him as well as could be.

"It is strange," said the professor. "That is the second specimen of that variety that I have seen. The only other one that I know of is preserved in the British Museum and was found at a seldom-visited point in the Indian Ocean. Then the young woman remembered her dream.

W. S. Simonson

933 Broadway, 21-22 Streets

GRAY HAIR.

My stock contains every shade, from the slightly gray to the pure silver-white hair, made up into coils, full coiffures or any of the pieces called for in the prevailing modes. I have this season an unusually attractive assortment of gray hair of quality such as cannot be found elsewhere.

is the coiffure for the stylish low hair and the dress down the back.

Wigs for Ladies—Toupees for Gentlemen

of my make are absolutely secure, and are as perfect in fit and color that they cannot be detected by the closest observer.

No Branch Stores. EVERYTHING FOR THE HAIR. No Agents.

If she's a good cook, her employer will perhaps let her alone.

"The same thing is true in a lesser degree of other servants, but the lady's maid will not be let alone. She is at my lady's beck and call every hour, she is constantly ordered about, found fault with. Her despotic position is rubbed in.

"If her mistress happens to be a bad-tempered or inconsiderate woman, the maid gets the full benefit of it. An American girl will not stand it. She will talk back, throw up the position, leave.

"Don't talk to me about American ladies' maids. I don't want anything to do with them. The proposition isn't practical.

"The French maid good maids because of their taste in matters of dress and toilet. They have a natural talent for dressmaking and costume details.

"Still, in this country, a good German maid is more in demand than a French maid, I suppose because of her money, but she is a lady's maid while the American will not hold water. As a rule, the tyranny is on the other side.

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